

Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

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Post-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within 30 days of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building.

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I make the following disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me. I also certify that I have attached:

- ☒ The original *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* (Form RE-1), **AND**
- ☒ A copy of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form* with all attachments (itinerary, invitee list, etc.)

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): The American Israel Education Foundation

Travel date(s): July 27 - August 4, 2019

Name of accompanying family member (if any): None

Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

IF THE COST OF LODGING DID NOT INCREASE DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Expenses for Employee:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate	\$2,643.87	\$1,628.31	\$1,306.69	\$3,216.55 Security, Speaker fees, hotels for contract staff, tour guides, meals for contract staff, room rentals, airport assistance, transportation for contract staff, entrance fees, photography, tips
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount				

Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable):

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate	—	—	—	—
<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount				

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. See Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.): All meetings and events detailed in attached itinerary

9/4/19
(Date)

SEAN COIT
(Printed name of traveler)

[Signature]
(Signature of traveler)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER:

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

9/4/19
(Date)

[Signature]
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

Form RE-1

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should NOT submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors):
American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
2. Description of the trip:
Please see addendum
3. Dates of travel: June 27 - August 4, 2019
4. Place of travel: Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Tiberias
5. Name and title of Senate invitees: Please see attached
6. I certify that the trip fits one of the following categories:
☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.
– OR –
☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) (*see question 9*).
7. ☒ I certify that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
– AND –
☒ I certify that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.
8. I certify that:
☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.
– AND –
☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**

I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

– OR –

☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (*see questions 6 and 10*).

– OR –

☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**

If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this trip.

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the mission of providing educational programming about the U.S.-Israel relationship. The delegation will have the opportunity to meet with a diverse group of Israelis and Palestinians, and see first-hand the outcome of U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation in the region.

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

Please see addendum

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

Please see addendum

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate	\$2,555.09	\$1,501	\$1,046	\$3,120.19
<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	air = 2,011.84 bus = \$350 Amtrak = \$112 Syrian border transport = \$62.50 taxis = \$18.75	JLM = \$735 TLV = \$498 TIB = \$268	JLM = \$560 TLV = \$340 TIB = \$146	Please see breakdown attached

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

b) The trip involves an event that is arranged and organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

During the trip, participants will visit many cities and regions in Israel, to explore the strategic nature of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Inbal (Ze'ev Jabotinsky St 3, Jerusalem); Sheraton (HaYarkon St 115, Tel Aviv-Yafo);
Europa (HaPalmach Street 3, Tiberias)

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

We chose these hotels due to their location and affordability.

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar In Israel
Senior Congressional Staff
July 27 – August 4, 2019**

Addendum

2. Description of the Trip

This seminar, which will be on the ground in Israel for seven days, is specifically designed to explore foreign policy and defense issues related to the U.S.-Israel relationship. Some of the key issues to be addressed include: Iran's continued malign regional activities; the impact of Syrian civil war along Israel's northern border; the internal political situations of both Israel and the Palestinian Authority, the status of the peace process; and the expanded cooperation between the U.S. and Israel in fighting terrorism and proliferation.

The seminar will consist of discussions with Israeli government officials, military officers, Members of the Knesset, Palestinian representatives and U.S. officials, as well as site surveys of the northern border with Lebanon and Syria, the southern border with the Gaza Strip, and the security fence. The seminar also aims to provide the political, historic, and religious context to the current conflicts and issues facing Israel and the region. It will explore the connection the three monotheistic religions have with the land and the influence this connection has on today's struggles. In addition to formal meetings and briefings, the trip provides experiential opportunities to help better understand the geographical complications, the security implications, and the historic root causes of the current conflicts.

14. Sponsoring Congressional Trips

Founded in 1990, the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF) funds Israel Seminars for members of Congress, Capitol Hill staffers, students, political consultants, as well as Christian, Latino, African American, Progressive, and Veteran leaders. These trips to Israel are among the most critical programs AIEF supports on behalf of the U.S.-Israel relationship. These educational seminars allow policy makers to understand the complex historical, religious and geographic context of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Participants meet with Israeli government officials, military officers, members of the Knesset, U.S. government officials, Palestinian Authority officials and leading academics and journalists. For many of the participants, who make important decisions impacting Israel and the Middle East, these trips are their first, and sometimes, only exposure to the country. The most recent Senate trip (for congressional staff) was in June, 2019.

15. Other Educational Activities

AIEF grants support innovative and award-winning programming that educates a wide array of participants, including college students, members of Congress and their staff, and political professionals.

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-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

-Honoraria for guest speakers

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$200 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

-We pay a 7% hotel room commission to the company that books our hotels.

- We use a service to help participants navigate passport control and customs.

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

Other: \$31.25 per person

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

-On each trip we take a group photo with a professional photographer

-Tips for hotel staff

Meal expenses are equal to the per diem rate for Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Tiberias. Lodging expenses are less than the per diem for Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Tiberias. Meal expenses include the cost for meals, snacks, and water on the bus. It does not include alcohol, as we do not pay for alcohol per Senate ethics rules.

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
U.S. Congressional Staff
July 27 – August 4, 2019

Senate Invitees

1. Sean Coit, Communications Director, Senator Chris Coons (D-DE)
2. Wayne Jones, National Security Advisor, Senator Rob Portman (R-OH)



June 12, 2019

Sean Coit
Office of The Honorable Chris Coons
SR-218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Sean,

On behalf of the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF), we would like to invite you to participate in an educational seminar in Israel for Senate and House foreign policy staff, July 27-August 4, 2019. The trip will depart Saturday afternoon, July 27; and return to the U.S. on Sunday morning, August 4.

This seminar will delve into some of the most difficult issues facing Israel and the region. Israeli leaders from across the political spectrum, along with Palestinian leaders, will explore the peace negotiations and the obstacles to peace, the myriad of security threats facing the region, and the strategic relationship between the United States and Israel.

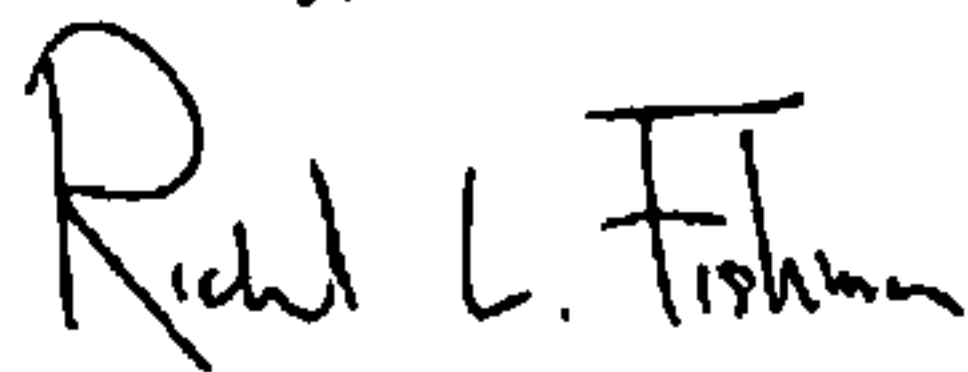
Participants will hear a wide array of viewpoints, including discussions with: members of the Israeli Knesset and the Palestinian Authority; U.S. government officials; military leaders; heads of non-governmental organizations; and prominent academics and journalists. The program will also include visits to historic and religious sites in Jerusalem and the Galilee.

All trip-related expenses will be paid for by AIEF, and all aspects of the trip will be in full conformity with Senate and House Ethics rules. AIEF will provide additional information to assure your compliance with ethics rules.

We hope you will be able to join us on what promises to be a rich, insightful and educational trip. To confirm your participation, please complete the confirmation form, and return to landerson@aiefdn.org. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren Anderson at (202) 639-5327.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard L. Fishman". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Richard Fishman
Executive Director, AIEF

AMERICAN ISRAELI EDUCATION FOUNDATION | *The Charitable Organization affiliated with AIPAC*
251 H Street, NW | Washington, DC 20001 | Phone: 202-639-5230 | Fax: 202-347-5232

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**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
United States Congressional Staff
July 27 – August 4, 2019**

Itinerary

Saturday, July 27, 2019

5:20 PM	Depart Union Station Amtrak #192
8:25 PM	Arrive at Newark International Airport
10:50 PM	Depart Newark International Airport United Flight #90

Sunday, July 28, 2019

4:20 PM	Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport Transfer to Jerusalem
6:00 PM	Check-in to the Inbal Hotel
7:00 PM	Depart for dinner
7:15-8:00 PM	<i>Setting the Stage</i> Welcome and orientation - at Touro Restaurant
8:00-10:00 PM	<i>Pulse of The Nation</i> Dinner with Yossi Klein Halevi Senior Fellow, Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem - at Touro Restaurant

Pulse of the Nation

Yossi Klein Halevi is a senior fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. Together with Imam Abdullah Antepli of Duke University, he co-directs the Institute's Muslim Leadership Initiative (MLI), which teaches emerging young Muslim American leaders about Judaism, Israel and Zionism. A renowned author and thought leader, his latest book, the New York Times bestseller, *Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor*, was published by Harper Collins in June 2018 to wide acclaim. Halevi writes for leading op-ed pages in the U.S. and is a former contributing editor to The New Republic. During this session, Halevi will provide members with a synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs, and the general state of mind of the Israeli people at the point in time that the group arrives in Israel.

namely the Old City, the status of Arab neighborhoods just outside the Old City, and religious sites such as the Temple Mount.

The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, which is believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount (Haram al-Sharif), sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East.

The professionally guided survey will walk through all of these sites and others, educating trip participants on their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.

12:00 PM Depart for lunch

12:30-1:30 PM *Israel's Political Map*
Lunch with Professor Reuven Hazan
Hebrew University
-at Notre Dame Hotel

Israel's Political Map

It is critical for trip participants to have an understanding of the parliamentary system in Israel. Professor Hazan explains how the parliamentary party system works, how coalitions rise and fall, and how Israeli politics differ from American politics. Since the group will be visiting with government officials throughout the week, we believe it's important to provide this overview early in the seminar.

1:45-2:45 PM *The Palestinian Street*
Shimrit Meir
Founding Editor, Al-Masdar
-at Notre Dame Hotel

The Palestinian Street

Shimrit Meir is a leading Middle East analyst and journalist and a global expert in Palestinian affairs with over 15 years of experience in researching and reporting on the Arab world. She is a veteran of the Israeli Defense Forces Intelligence corps elite unit "8200." Fluent in Hebrew, Arabic, English and French, Meir is a regular contributor to the leading Israeli daily Yedioth Ahronoth and often writes and is quoted in global publications such as the Washington Post, Globe and Mail and New York Times. She started her professional career as the Arab affairs correspondent and commentator for Galei Zahal, Israel's top radio station, and worked for both Israeli public television and Channel 2 News, the country's largest commercial broadcaster. Meir served as the Founder and CEO of Link—the Center for Strategic Communication in the Middle East, a non-profit organization with a mission to create a better understanding of Israel in the Arab world through the use of digital media. She is also the founding editor of Israel's largest Arabic digital media outlet Al-Masdar, where she headed a diversified Jewish-Arab team of young journalists that delivered stories from Israel to readers in the region. The team at Link

synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of the Israeli citizens. He also provides a greater understanding of international media coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

9:15 AM Depart for Yad Vashem

9:45-11:45 AM *Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust*
Visit to Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

Yad Vashem

One cannot understand Israel's position on Iran's nuclear program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Since its inception, Yad Vashem has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations. Located on Har Hazikaron (the Mount of Remembrance) in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a sprawling complex of museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures, and memorials.

Every foreign leader that travels to Israel visits Yad Vashem. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state. The museum's professional docent will guide the group through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

12:00 PM Depart

12:30-1:30 PM *A View from the Palestinian Authority*
Lunch with Dr. Saeb Erkat
Chief Negotiator, Palestinian Authority
- at the American Colony Hotel

A View from the Palestinian Authority

During each seminar, we invite a representative of the Palestinian Authority to address the group. Dr. Erkat will present the current state of Palestinian Authority Affairs, including the Palestinian perspective on the issues of the day, as well as relations with Israel and prospects for peace.

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Wednesday, July 31, 2019

7:45 AM Breakfast served
-at the hotel

8:00-9:00 AM *Regional Threats Assessment Post-JCPOA*
Breakfast with Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel
Former Director, Counter Terrorism Bureau, Prime Minister's Office
-at the hotel

Regional Threat Assessment

Brig.-Gen. (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel is the immediate past director of the Counter-Terrorism Bureau at the Office of the Prime Minister, where he served until 2012. His duties included developing a national policy for border protection, cargo and aviation security, and advanced technology for public security. He is a veteran of the "Golani" Infantry Corp; he held command positions in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and South Lebanon. Today he is a research associate at the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism at IDC Herzliya. With experience on all of Israel's borders, he will provide a broad overview of Israel's neighbors, and the unique challenges each poses to the Jewish state.

9:15 AM Depart

10:45-11:30 AM *Israel's Southern Front, Part I*
The Erez Border Crossing
Briefing by Maj. Sabina Elayev
Head of the International Organizations Department, Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT)
-at Erez crossing

11:45 AM-1:30PM *Israel's Southern Front, Part II*
Living in the Shadow of Rocket Fire

- Visit Kfar Aza and meet with local residents
- Overlook into Gaza at Nir Am

-at Kfar Aza

Israel's Southern Front

Since 2001, Israeli communities bordering the Gaza Strip have been living under the threat of rocket fire. Since the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, the volume, range and accuracy of the rockets has only increased. The summer of 2014 witnessed Operation Protective Edge, which returned the issue of rocket fire from Gaza to international headlines. At Kibbutz Nir Am, participants will be able to see the border between Israel and the Gaza Strip, to better comprehend the landscape of the region, as well as the unique challenges faced by this area. The visit to Kibbutz Kfar Aza and meeting with a local resident will be an opportunity to better understand the reality of living just kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how almost 15 years of rocket fire has shaped those living in the communities most affected, to discuss the advent of Hamas "terror tunnels" into

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4:00-4:30 PM *360° Bird's Eye View*
Briefing from the Azrieli Tower Rooftop

From the rooftop of the Azrieli center, participants will be standing at the highest observatory in the Middle East. The panoramic view stretches from Ashkelon in the south to Hadera in the north. On a clear day one can see almost 70 percent of the country, as far as Jerusalem to the East. The importance of this visit is to provide participants a geostrategic viewpoint from which to understand the narrow waistline of Israel, which at its narrowest spans 9 miles from the Mediterranean to the West Bank. Additionally, the area visible from this vantage point – referred to as the Gedera-Hadera corridor – comprises a small rectangle of land that can be covered lengthwise in under an hour. This section of Israel includes over 50% of Israel's population, economic infrastructure, as well as its only International Airport.

Einat Wilf is a prominent Israeli is a renowned author and thought leader in Israel. She provides a nuanced understanding of Zionism, the history of Israel, and the successes and challenges of the modern Jewish state. She will provide participants a greater understanding of the Israel's most pivotal moments, including the recent 70th anniversary of the founding of the state, and how those moments have shaped Israel's present and future.

5:45 PM	Depart
6:15 PM	Arrive at the hotel
7:30 PM	Depart for dinner

- 8:00-9:45 PM *The Israeli Mosaic*
- Miriam Ballin, United Hatzalah
 - Dan Slijper, LGBT Caucus, Yesh Atid Party
 - Racheli Yaso-Ngatuo, Outreach Coordinator
Yemin Orde Youth Village
 - Reem Younis, Co-founder, Alpha Omega Company
- at Eat With

The Israeli Mosaic

“The Israeli Mosaic” will be a dinner discussion with Israelis representing some of the various societal sectors – all integral parts of the fabric of Israeli society and broader identity. The evening will be an opportunity to gain insight into the Israeli population as a whole, what governs the perspective and decisions of various sectors and to explore how each of the sectors represented fits into Israeli society and informs the collective national narrative.

10:00 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv

Thursday, August 1, 2019

7:45 AM Breakfast served
- at the hotel, Topaz hall

8:00-8:45 AM *Settlements in Focus, Part I:*
Lia Weiner, Research Associate, Washington Institute for Near East Policy
- at the hotel

9:00-10:00 AM *Settlements in Focus, Part II:*
• Yariv Oppenheimer, Former CEO, Peace Now
• Oded Revivi, Mayor, Efrat
- at the hotel

Settlements in Focus, Part I and II

Israeli settlement policy is one of the more complex issues in the ongoing negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians. Lia Weiner is a Research Associate at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. Mayor Revivi is the Mayor of a settlement in the West Bank; Yariv Oppenheimer is the former head of Peace now. These sessions provide an opportunity for participants to get an insider’s perspective on Israeli settlement policy, the differing views among Israeli citizens, and the role settlements play in the current political climate.

10:15 AM Depart

11:30 AM-12:15 PM *Israel’s Narrow Waistline*
Briefing at Alfei Menashe

Israel's Narrow Waistline – Strategic Concerns

Alfei Menashe is a Jewish community located on the western edge of the West Bank. Less than 10 miles from the Mediterranean Sea, Alfei Menashe provides a unique vantage point to discuss Israeli settlement policy, the routing of the security barrier, as well as Israel's narrow waistline.

The sliver of Israeli land west of the West Bank is often referred to as the Hadera-Gadera rectangle, with the city of Hadera denoting the northern point, and the city of Gadera the southern point. The Hadera-Gadera rectangle is home to over 50 percent of Israel's population, as well as civilian infrastructure. The area is also home to Israel's "Silicon Valley", as well as Ben Gurion international airport.

The discussion at Alfei Menashe will allow participants to see firsthand the proximity of Jewish and Arab neighborhoods in both Israel and the West Bank; as well as the strategic threats faced by the Israeli population living in Israel's narrow waistline.

12:15 PM Depart

1:00-2:00 PM *Minority Rights in Israel*
Lunch with Mohammad Darawshe
Director of Planning Equality & Shared Society
Givat Haviva Educational Center
-At Netanya/Hadera

Minority Rights in Israel

As of the 2015 census, approximately 21% of Israeli residents are part of the non-Jewish minority, which includes, among others, Muslims, Christians, and Druze. As a liberal, democratic state, Israel is rooted in liberty, the rule of law, free and fair elections, and full civil rights for all citizens. Currently 14 Israeli Arabs and 2 Druze serve in the 120-member Israeli Knesset. Our speaker, Mohammad Darawshe is currently the director of planning, equality and shared living at Givat Haviva Educational Institute –a non-profit organization founded in 1949 as the national education center of the Kibbutz Federation in Israel. His focus throughout his career is promoting coexistence and quality among Israel's Jewish and Arab-Palestinians citizens. He will discuss the current challenges facing minority groups in Israel, as well as ways the government of Israel and NGOs seek to address these challenges.

2:15 PM Depart

En route briefings:

- *The Jezreel Valley – Strategic Land Bridge Between Africa and Asia*
- *Upper Galilee – Potential for Development*

The Jezreel Valley

Our tour guide will spend an hour during the drive from Israel's center to the north to provide the delegation a briefing on the Jezreel Valley and the Upper Galilee and the challenges facing these regions of the country.

For thousands of years, the Jezreel Valley served as a land bridge linking Africa, Asia and Europe, and serving as a thoroughfare for ancient caravans and, more frequently, armies. In modern times, during World War I, for example, the British and Turkish forces fought a number of pitched battles in the valley. In 1948, following Israel's establishment, the combined forces of Iraq and Jordan attempted unsuccessfully to capture the valley in order to split the just-born Israel into two parts. In the early 20th century, after decades of neglect, Jewish pioneers drained the swamps in the valley, transforming this region into Israel's "breadbasket" known for wheat, cotton, sunflowers and fish ponds. The Jezreel Valley is also home to historical and biblical sites including Tel Megiddo and Nazareth.

Today it is an important symbol of Israel's complex and diverse political reality. The Jezreel Valley, together with the areas of the Lower and Upper Galilee, is home to the majority of Israel's Arab citizens. A survey of this area provides an opportunity to discuss and learn about Israel's Arab citizens – 20 percent of the population – each of which has full democratic, social and welfare rights, the right to vote and serve in the Knesset, and the opportunity to serve on Israel's Supreme Court. These issues are not widely known and this segment gives trip participants the opportunity to understand Israel's relationship with its largest minority group.

Upper Galilee

The Upper Galilee is home to the largest variety of ethnic communities in Israel including Druze, Circassian, Arab Muslim and Arab Christian villages. The Galilee is also home to ancient Jewish and Christian holy sites that provide additional historical and political context to regional tensions. Just as in the case of the Jezreel Valley, the area illustrates the role of minorities in Israel.

At the same time, the Upper Galilee is home to some of the most prominent industrial hubs. Best known among them is the Tefen Industrial area, home to numerous enterprises established by the region's residents – Jewish and Arab. In 2006, Upper Galilee's ISCAR Metal Working Company was purchased for \$5 billion by Warren Buffet's conglomerate holding company. Since then, a number of American investors have become partners in some of the region's hi-tech and bio-tech companies.

While time does not permit for sites visits, a drive through the region allows for expanding on the importance of the area in the context of the U.S.–Israel relationship.

4:45-6:45 PM *Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Lebanon and Hizballah*
Strategic briefing on Israel's border with Lebanon
With Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi, IDF Northern Command
- at Zarit

Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Lebanon and Hizballah

Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi served 15 years in the IDF in Military Intelligence –first in the Research and Analysis Branch, and later in the Northern Command. During her military service she briefed hundreds of delegations, ranging from U.S. Senators, Congressmen and politicians to global military commanders, senior journalists and visiting VIP delegations. She is the founder/director of Alma, an educational research center focusing on the security issues of

10:30 AM Depart for the Golan Heights

11:00 AM-1:00 PM *Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Syria*
Strategic survey of Israel's border with Syria
With Maj. Ilan Shulman
- at Ein Zivan

Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Syria

Captain (Res.) Ilan Shulman, a disabled IDF veteran, divides his time guiding geopolitical tours on the Galilee and Golan Heights, lecturing to students, giving geo-political briefings for delegations through various Israeli foreign ministry programs, and fulfilling his IDF reserve duties in the Northern Command's intelligence unit. Shulman was raised in Kibbutz Merom Golan near Israel's border with Syria, where one of his favorite jobs was herding the kibbutz cattle. Shulman served in the IDF's paratrooper's unit, rising to the position of company commander. He holds a BA in Israel and Middle East Studies. During this session he will take participants to the border between Israel and Syria and provide an overview of the Syrian civil war.

1:00 PM Depart

1:30-2:30 PM Lunch
- at Rutenberg Restaurant

2:45-3:45 PM Travel back to Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley
En route briefing:
Jordan: Relations with Israel, and the Growing Refugee Crisis

Jordan: Relations with Israel, and the Growing Refugee Crisis

The tour guide will spend approximately an hour during the drive through the Jordan Valley to explore several topics related to Israel's eastern neighbor: specifically, Israeli-Jordanian strategic cooperation, as well as the implications of the Syrian civil war on the Kingdom.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan became the second Arab country after Egypt to recognize Israel when it signed a comprehensive peace agreement that ended nearly five decades of warfare. Shepherded by United States President Bill Clinton, the accord signed on Oct. 6, 1994, marked the onset of a new era of economic, cultural, and political dialogue and cooperation between the two countries.

In recent years, the two countries have worked together to combat the increased threat from terrorism by coordinating their security efforts and preventing infiltrations across their shared border. Today, Jordan hosts over 1.4 million Syrian refugees fleeing civil war. Following our discussion with Israeli soldiers patrolling the Syrian border, our guide will address how the influx of Syrian refugees and the threats in the region impact Jordan internally; as well as relations and further potential for strategic partnership between Jordan, the United States, and Israel.

- 5:45 PM Check-in to the Inbal Hotel
- 7:00 PM Depart for dinner
- 7:30-9:30 PM *Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem*
Traditional Sabbath evening dinner
With Professor Gil Troy and Linda Adams
- at their home in Jerusalem

Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem

Israel, the only Jewish country in the world, boasts the unique tradition of honoring the Jewish Sabbath from Friday sundown until Saturday sundown. 80 percent of the Israeli population will commemorate the Sabbath, in various forms, which typically include a family dinner and special blessings. The Sabbath is especially significant in Jerusalem, home to the holiest site for Jews worldwide - the remains of the First and Second Temple.

The group will be hosted by Professor Gil Troy and his family. Professor Troy, a renowned educator and author, will lead a discussion on the importance of Jerusalem to the Jewish, Christian and Muslim populations; the potential for a final status agreement on Jerusalem (arguably the most sensitive final status issue); and the diplomatic challenges faced by Israel and the United States regarding Israeli urban development in the area.

- 9:30 PM Overnight at the Inbal Hotel

Saturday, August 3, 2019

- 7:45 AM Breakfast on own
- at the hotel
- 8:00-9:45 AM Depart
En route briefing:
Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor

Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor

On the drive from Jerusalem to Masada, the group will travel on the highway known as the "Jericho Road" is the strategic importance of the area east of Jerusalem. In 1948 and in 1967, the Jordanian army attacked Jerusalem from the east – the 1948 attack resulted in the city's division that lasted until 1967. Since then Israel has established the City of Ma'ale Adumim east of Jerusalem, today home to some 40,000 residents. To the Palestinians, however, Ma'ale Adumim is the largest settlement on the West Bank. When Israel attempted to expand Ma'ale Adumim's boundary, into an area known as "E-1", the U.S. State Department stepped in and asked that no construction take place there. The issue needs to be examined with those discussing the future of Jerusalem in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

- 9:45-11:45AM *History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire*
Guided survey of the National Archeological Park at Masada

Masada

Masada, which was excavated in the 1960s, is considered one of the most important archeological sites in Israel. Masada was the site of the last stand of the Jews in Israel after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the Holy Temple in 70 A.D. A group of Jewish zealots fled to the Judean Desert and lived in the former mountaintop fortress of King Herod known as Masada for two years resisting the onslaught of the most powerful army in the world. Determined to break the resistance, the Romans finally scaled the mountain to capture and enslave the Jewish rebels. However, when they finally arrived, they found that all the men, women and children had killed themselves as a last act of defiance. They refused to give in to the Romans and become their slaves.

The ancient story of Masada has important contemporary relevance for the modern State of Israel. "Masada shall never fall again" has become the watchword of the country which has faced existential threats since its founding in 1948. Israel's elite military units, for example, are sworn in on top of Masada in a symbolic act of defiance against Israel's contemporary enemies. These soldiers along with the thousands of Israeli school children who visit Masada each year learn the lesson that Israel should never become so weak again that it would ever face national suicide as an option.

We will spend approximately two hours atop of Masada with a professional guide. The time at Masada with the guide is focused on three areas: 1. surveying the ancient excavations; 2. learning the narrative of Jewish resistance to the Romans backed by the archeological and historical evidence; 3. discussing the importance of the Masada story to the contemporary Middle East and the threats in the region.

12:00-1:00 PM Exploration of the Dead Sea Region
- at Herods Hotel

Dead Sea Region

During our drive to and from the Dead Sea area, as well as during our visit to the Dead Sea, our tour guide will discuss a variety of issues integral to understanding the region, the country, and relations with both the Palestinians and Jordanians.

It is important to note that the region is mostly desert. For decades, Israel has been challenging this arid area and developing its agricultural potential. While the Middle East is suffering from water shortages, Israel, through modern technology and water conservation policies, including the recycling of over 80 percent of water used for domestic purposes and transferring it to agriculture, has literally "made the desert bloom." Some of this technology is already being shared with Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. All sides realize that a comprehensive regional water policy will ensure food production necessary to satisfy the Middle East's growing population. For example, in late 2013, the three parties agreed to build a Red Sea-Dead Sea water project to address the shortage of fresh, clean water in the region and the rapid loss of water at the Dead Sea. This highlights the growing importance for Israel and her Arab neighbors to work together on joint environmental projects.

The key regional players also face serious environmental issues in the Dead Sea region. One of the major environmental concerns is the receding of the Dead Sea and the appearance of sinkholes, which cause the earth above to collapse. Roads, fields and buildings have collapsed due to this phenomenon, and experts are concerned the tourist infrastructure along the Jordanian and Israeli shores of the Dead Sea are also in danger. This issue has led to unprecedented cooperation between Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinians and serves as a model for regional cooperation.

1:00-2:00 PM	Lunch -at Hod Hotel
2:00 PM	Depart for Jerusalem
4:00 PM	Return to hotel Check out
7:00-9:00 PM	<i>The U.S.-Israel Relationship: Bringing it all Together</i> Closing dinner - at Ester

Closing Dinner

The closing dinner provides an opportunity for participants to process the scope of the week, from the religious center of the Judeo-Christian world in Jerusalem, to the bustling economic powerhouse of Tel Aviv; from the conflict plagued northern borders with Syria and Lebanon, to the environmental and geographical wonders of the Negev desert and the Dead Sea. We will process the range of topics explored, including the U.S.-Israel strategic partnership, prospects for Arab-Israeli peace, the experience of minorities in Israel, as well as greater existential threats throughout the region. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their takeaways, and ask any lingering questions that weren't covered during the week.

9:00 PM	Depart for the airport
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Sunday, August 4, 2019

12:20 AM	Depart Tel Aviv United Flight #73
5:50 AM	Arrive Dulles